



# Crop Progress and Condition

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Northwest Regional Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507

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### In Cooperation with...

- Cooperative Extension Service, Washington State University
- Cooperative Extension Service, University of Idaho
- Idaho State Department of Agriculture
- Oregon State Department of Agriculture
- USDA, Farm Service Agency

### Regional Contacts

Phone: 1-800-435-5883

Email: [nassrfonwr@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfonwr@nass.usda.gov)

- Washington – Christopher Mertz, NW Regional Director
- Idaho – Randy Welk, State Statistician
- Oregon – Dave Losh, State Statistician
- Alaska – Sue Benz, State Statistician

## Idaho

Idaho was waiting to start planting due to high moisture and low temperatures. Ground in Boundary County was still frozen with snow cover. Snow was melting rapidly on the Southern, Southwestern, and Southeastern slopes in Latah and Nez Perce Counties, but soils remained too saturated to work. Spring calving was nearing completion in Southwestern Idaho. Topsoil in Cassia and Minidoka Counties were dry, but subsoil continued to be very wet. Rangeland needed more heat before it became usable. Tractors recently started to enter fields in Jerome and Twin Falls Counties. Winter pastures were in poor conditions while spring pastures began to green. Camas County had at least three feet of snow in fields, while Bear Lake and Teton Counties had at least two feet of snow. The ground was thawing and snow was melting in Oneida County. Snow was melting with the welcoming of rain in Power County. Teton County experienced some minor flooding.

## Oregon

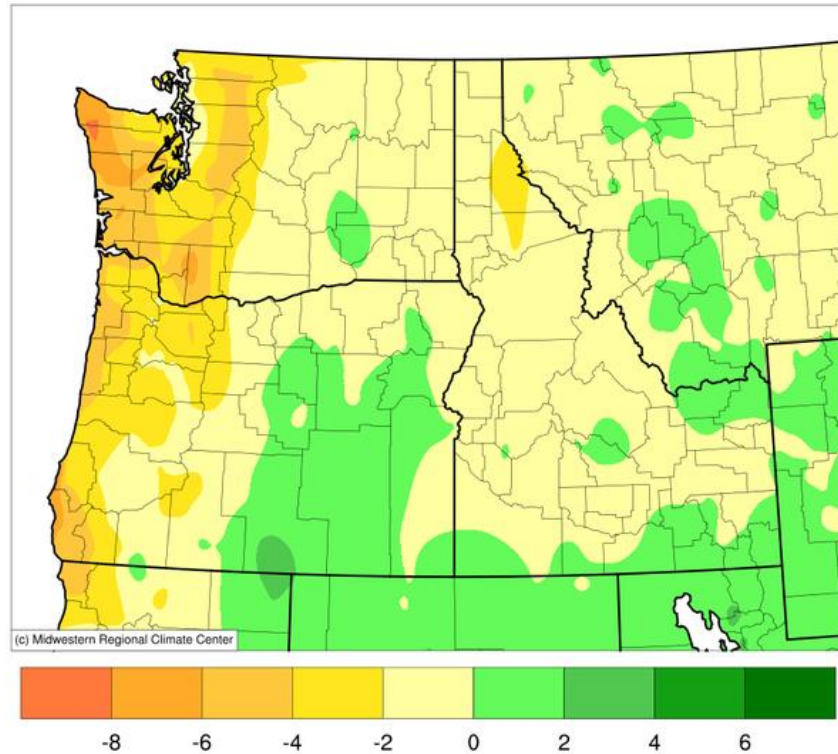
Oregon exited the winter months with good snowpack and snow water equivalent well above average. Many watersheds in the Eastern part of the State were 130% (or greater) of normal. For the drought stricken areas of Klamath, Lake and Harney Counties, this was great news going forward in crop year 2019. Thanks to cool night-time temperatures, there were no reports of flooding Statewide. The snow cover stayed on the ground for much of March. In the North Central and North Eastern regions of the State, almost all spring planting was late. Producers rushed to get spring work completed. Although the water outlook was good for the spring crops, the lateness of planting spring grains was a concern for some producers. Winter canola crop looked excellent. Sherman County anticipated that it still might take a few weeks before producers could get equipment into some fields. Cattle producers were also impacted. Many livestock producers purchased extra hay. More calving loss was observed due to the winter storms that brought frigid temperatures and high winds. Much of the Northern coastal regions observed heavy snow in early March followed by a warm-up near the end of the month. The unexpected snow impacted some of the orchard crops. Broken limbs was the main issue. Most producers had finished pruning. Older orchards had the most damage. Since most grass seed and wheat fields had already received the first application of fertilizer, several producers were uncertain how much of the application would be utilized due to heavy moisture. Like much of the rest of the State, spring crops were late in planting. In South Central and Southeastern Oregon, it was still early to assess pasture and range condition, with much of the region still covered in snow. Planting progress was spotty for all crops. Some Lake County livestock producers reported higher than normal calving death losses due to winter weather. In the Southern part of Klamath County, pasture conditions looked good. Fields were prepped for planting. In the Northern part of the county, there was still a lot of snow on the ground.

## Washington

Snowy days gave way to warmer conditions and melting snow in much of Washington. Fields in Western Washington started to dry out and field work started. Most fall planted crops around the Puget Sound survived the winter in good condition while spring crops had not yet been planted. Grass was green and growing. Vegetable growers were tilling fields and getting ready for spring planting. The warm weather was favorable for lambs and calves. Livestock were still on stored feed and soil temperatures were low on the Peninsula. Southwestern Washington was unseasonably warm and dry. Many ditches and wet spots dried out. There were three field fires in Lewis County and another three field fires in Grays Harbor County. Several apiaries in Cowlitz, Clark, and Skamania Counties reported colony collapse up to 70% of total hives. Fall planted triticale was in good condition. Raspberries in Whatcom County had some crop damage due to freezing temperatures in February, but the extent of damage was unknown until warmer temperatures occur. Greenhouse starts and tulips were the first crops for farmers market in Jefferson County. Most CSA operations started seed flats and hardy early spring vegetables were planted in high-tunnels. Skagit County was extraordinarily warm and dry. Propagation houses in Snohomish County were crammed with starts waiting for suitable field conditions to transplant. Most pastures in the county recovered from the heavy snow cover. Warmer temperatures in Benton and Franklin Counties led to quick snow melts. Early vegetable plantings were delayed one month. Cropland in Chelan and Douglas Counties was still under snow. Calving continued, however several losses were reported due to harsh weather conditions. Most of the winter wheat was under snow cover, but some green wheat was seen around field edges. The eastern side of Klickitat County was dry while Klickitat Valley had snow. Pastures were not ready, leading ranchers to forage for more hay. There were localized floods in Yakima County, but no crops were impacted. Pruning and tree training activities were underway. Temperatures in Stevens County fluctuated between 60 degree days and freezing nights after a cold March. Snow melted throughout northeastern Washington, while wheat and fall grain crops emerged through the remaining snow cover. There were reports of winter kill due to temperature variations and loss of snow cover on hilltops. Calving issues were also reported due to the two winter storms in February. Winter wheat in Adams County was in good condition with limited damage. The Palouse was wet, and snow still covered the ground.

## Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals

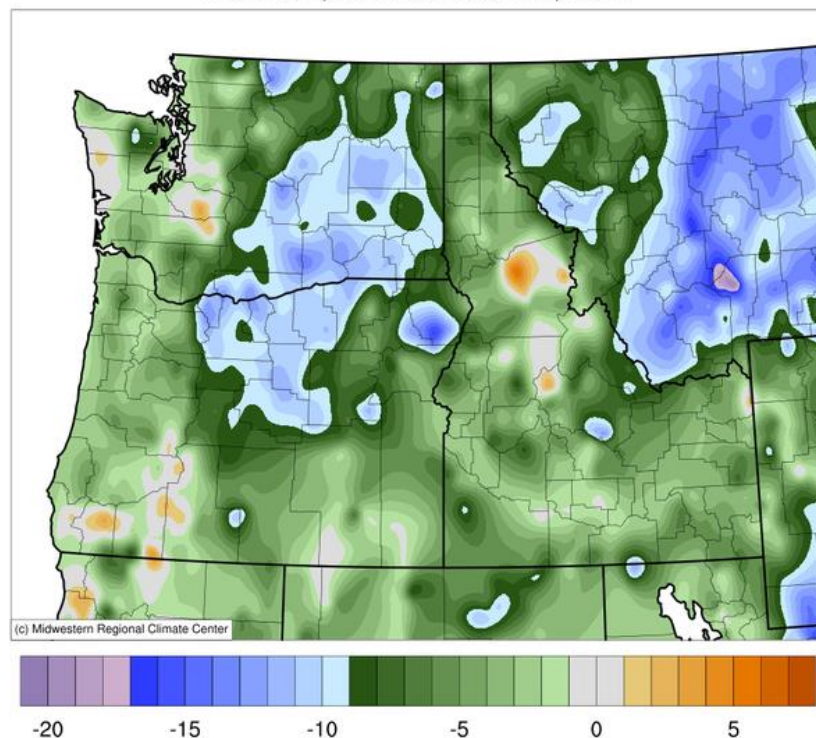
March 01, 2019 to March 25, 2019



<http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>

## Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals

March 01, 2019 to March 25, 2019



<http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>

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